NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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Dear Local Presidents:

© Harold M. Lambert

THE children of America are the concern of every parent-teacher member. This statement is one we know so well that perhaps we think it need not be repeated. But I believe it bears repeating—not once, but many, many times. This concern for children is the basis for our every action, the wellspring from which our best efforts must continue to pour forth.

Truly the parent-teacher organization is vitally interested in children—their education, their health, and their need to be self-supporting citizens of a great democracy. When these youngsters of ours take their place in the business, agricultural, industrial, and professional life of the nation, we want them to be thoroughly prepared for their tasks. We want them to be law-abiding men and women of strong character and good morals whose contribution to civilization will be meaningful and inspiring. We want the security that comes from knowing we are rearing a generation of healthy, well-educated citizens.

All Must Share

Of course I do not mean that each individual must immediately be endowed with extraordinary physical stamina or superior mental acuteness. I simply mean that each person—the weak, the strong, the slow, the brilliant—must be given all the healthful advantages that medical science can provide and all the education he is capable of absorbing. Then each in his own way may not only find his rightful niche in a democratic society but may, in turn, help to make that society more democratic!

Other nations, bidding for world leadership, are already working to broaden the bases of their educational structures. That is all to the good, and we parents and teachers of America praise them for their efforts in this direction. Well do we realize that only through democratic education can true peace be achieved and maintained.

However, in our desire to commend these other nations for their foresight, let us not be shortsighted about our own country's need for improvements along the same lines. We must make sure that American children keep pace with all children the world over. Because we have had a high standard of living, because we have led the world in providing a free public educational system, we have perhaps become a bit too smug and satisfied. Yet a glance at our "unfinished business in education" reveals some appalling inequalities.

Resolutions Must Be Followed Up

We still have a long, long way to go before we can truthfully say that the United States, richest nation on the face of the earth, has given each child in the land an opportunity to get the best and most suitable education possible. For years we have TALKED good educational opportunities. We have written countless resolutions for inclusion in literary archives. We have spread our arguments far and wide in a variety of journals and periodicals. Scores of educational and civic organizations have with high-sounding phrases expressed their views on the subject. Innumerable studies have been made, and impressive sets of statistics have been gathered. With what result?

Despite all this rhetorical endeavor, education in the United States today finds itself in the worst plight in its entire history. Our Federal government has not yet fully assumed its responsibilities in the field of education. We do not have nearly enough schools to educate adequately all those who want—and are determined to get—an education, be it good *or* bad.

Teachers by the tens of thousands have left the profession. Others with their backs to the wall, financially speaking, have resorted to strikes as their only means of maintaining standards to sustain their professional self-respect. We have surely come to a sorry pass when the men and women to whom we entrust the training of our future citizens virtually have to *beg* for a decent living wage!

Parent-teacher presidents, the time has come when we must face the facts, undaunted by the shocking picture we see. The time has come when we must realize that without Federal aid to pub-

(Continued on page 2)

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lic, tax-supported schools we never will be able to solve our educational problems. We may grant that during certain eras of prosperity the economy *in some areas* of the nation will support an adequate educational structure. But let us also acknowledge that even in such prosperous periods there will yet be school districts unable to meet the minimum requirements for a well-rounded education. Let us concede that, in the last analysis, without Federal aid we shall NEVER be able to have over-all, nation-wide, educational facilities that will give to every child his rightful opportunities.

The Time for Action Is at Hand!

Therefore, I call upon each of our 27,000 local presidents, each state, district, and council leader, and each of our 4,000,000 members to enlist in an all-out, nation-wide campaign to assure the passage of a Federal aid bill that will make Federal funds available to public, tax-supported schools. Only by such legislation can we put an end to these recurring crises in education.

• The things we can do and do immediately are these:

1. **Call a special P.T.A. meeting in March or in April at the very latest.**
2. **Give all the members of your group at this meeting an opportunity to discuss Federal aid for education.**
3. **Use as the basis of your discussion the information you will find on page 3 of this bulletin.**
4. **Ask your teacher members for additional information that may have come to them from the National Education Association.**
5. **Respect the opinions of members who may still have certain reservations, but try to persuade them to take an affirmative view. Do all you can to dispel their fears. I am confident that when they know the facts you will win their full support.**
6. **Give all members ample opportunity to be heard, and then draft a resolution in favor of Federal aid to tax-supported public schools.**
7. **Let all who favor the resolution copy it and send it over their individual signatures to their congressmen in Washington.**
8. **Send me a postal card telling the total number of letters mailed so that we will know definitely the extent of the support we have mustered in the interests of legislation that will assure Federal aid to our public schools.**

© H. Armstrong Roberts

Let us send so many thousands of letters to our senators and representatives that there will be absolutely no doubt about our intentions or wishes in the matter.

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Let this expression of united effort be our FIRST big step forward under our new Four-Point Program. And let it be said in the historical records of the future that during its Golden Jubilee year the National Congress of Parents and Teachers helped to usher in the golden age of universal democratic education in America.

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It is within our power to cast now the deciding vote that will assure to our children and their children's children an education of which America can truly be proud.

Sincerely yours,

Mabel W. Hughes

President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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50 OR MORE

THE following P.T.A.'s are ready to make full use of the Four-Point Program material that will be published in the *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*, for each unit listed has fifty or more subscriptions to our official magazine:

Central	Greensboro, N.C.	146
Inglenook	Birmingham, Ala.	117
Fairview	Camden, Ark.	114
Cogswell	Bradford, Mass.	113
Brackett	Arlington, Mass.	109
Garfield	Phoenix, Ariz.	100
Franklin	Wichita Falls, Tex.	100
Amphitheater	Tucson, Ariz.	95
Lee	Oklahoma City, Okla.	95
Elmwood	Des Moines, Ia.	91
Crockett	El Paso, Tex.	91
Woodstock	Anniston, Ala.	85
Green Park Jr. Hi.	Hickory, N.C.	85
Picayune	Picayune, Miss.	83
Maple Avenue	Newark, N.J.	82
Ruleville	Ruleville, Miss.	78
East High	Des Moines, Ia.	75
Peninsula	Portland, Ore.	75
Darwin	Chicago, Ill.	73
Lower Haven	Evanston, Ill.	72
Smithfield	Pawtucket, R.I.	72
Hancock	Lexington, Mass.	70
North Main	Mount Airy, N.C.	68
Sawyer Avenue	Chicago, Ill.	67
School No. 15	Tuckahoe, N.Y.	67
Eldorado	Eldorado, Ill.	65
Windsor	Des Moines, Ia.	65
Belmont	Belmont, N.C.	65
Edgemont	Rocky Mt., N.C.	65
Congress Hts.	Washington, D.C.	63
Perkins	Des Moines, Ia.	63
Park Hill	N. Little Rock, Ark.	62
Merrick	Merrick, N.Y.	62
Georgia Tucker	Monroe, La.	61
Lee	Birmingham, Ala.	60
Alcott	Hastings, Nebr.	60
Fair Grove High	Thomasville, N.C.	60
Willard	Des Moines, Ia.	57
Taft	Taft, Ore.	57
Kenilworth	Phoenix, Ariz.	56
Rice	Elkhart, Ind.	55
Jackson Park	Kannapolis, N.C.	53
Gregory Hts.	Portland, Ore.	53
Lowry	Knoxville, Tenn.	53
Hawthorne	Salt Lake City, Utah	53
Pickens	Aliceville, Ala.	52
Rice	Des Moines, Ia.	52
Roosevelt Elem.	Mason City, Ia.	52
Cullman	Cullman, Ala.	51
Lincoln	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	51
Bernard Terrace	Baton Rouge, La.	51
East Ward	Gulfport, Miss.	51
Wilson Jr. High	Passaic, N.J.	51
Lindley Elem.	Greensboro, N.C.	51
Teller	Denver, Colo.	50
Morningside	Atlanta, Ga.	50
Funston	Chicago, Ill.	50
Nixon	Chicago, Ill.	50
Evergreen Park	Evergreen Park, Ill.	50
Poindexter	Jackson, Miss.	50
Blessed Sacrament	Lincoln, Nebr.	50

If your unit has enough subscriptions to qualify, please send the following information to the *National Parent-Teacher* Office, 600 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago 5, Illinois:

- **The name and address of your P.T.A.**
- **The number of subscriptions.**
- **The dates on which they were mailed.**

THE following information was prepared for our use by the National Education Association. You will find it very timely and helpful as you go about your plans to secure Federal aid for education.

CONCERNING...

Federal Aid to Education

Our Public Schools

THE founders of our country knew that the surest basis of liberty is education of all the people.

• George Washington was so earnest in this belief that he built a schoolhouse himself. The building still stands, as a part of the public schools of Alexandria, Virginia.

• The Continental Congress set aside millions of acres for the support of education. The schools built with the money from these lands are an important part of the American institutions of learning.

• Since 1802 the Congress of the United States has passed more than 150 laws granting aid to public education—the strongest defense of American liberty.

Your Public Schools Today Are Threatened with Disaster

- *350,000 qualified teachers have left the schools.*
- *110,000 now teaching do not meet standard qualifications.*
- *75,000 teaching positions are vacant.*
- *5,000,000 children are not in school at all.*

The public schools, which for decades have inspired youth with American ideals, are in great distress. Very few college students are preparing to teach. The schools will break down completely unless they are given greater financial support. Some states and communities may be able to provide the additional funds. Many of them cannot—now, or in the future. The Federal government must help finance the public schools.

The Federal Government

• *must help by granting financial aid to the states which will . . .*

EQUALIZE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

American children are entitled to a fair start in life. They are not all getting it.

- Some children go to school in safe, comfortable buildings; others in ugly, dangerous shacks.
- Some children have a chance to go to high school. For others no school is provided beyond the eighth grade.
- Some children go to school ten months a year; others only six.
- Some children have college-trained teachers; others are taught by teachers who have not finished elementary school.

Some communities spend 60 times as much for the education of their children as others do!

Wealth Is Unevenly Distributed

- The people of the richest state have five times as much income per child as the people of the poorest state.
- Much of the wealth created in the nation flows to great manufacturing and business centers. Many of the states helping to create the wealth therefore have no power to tax it for the support of their schools.
- Only the Federal government has the power to tax wealth wherever it is for the education of children wherever they live.

Children Are Unevenly Distributed

- Some states have twice as many children per 1,000 population as other states. They are not the wealthiest states. If some states spent *all their normal revenues* for education they could not support their schools as well as the average school of the nation is supported. Their children will never have equality of educational opportunity unless the Federal government helps pay for the schools.

Insure Local Control of Schools

• Control of education must be kept in the states and communities. Local school boards must select their teachers, choose their textbooks, and offer an educational program suited to the needs of their children. One hundred and sixty years of Federal aid to education has not taken this power away from local school authorities.

CEREMONIES AT BIRNEY MEMORIAL

ON the fiftieth birthday of the National Congress, parent-teacher leaders again gathered at the Birney Memorial in Marietta, Georgia, to honor the Founders, Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst. In a message of tribute to our two pioneer leaders, Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president, pledged a rededication of our efforts toward the ideals and purposes so ably charted fifty years ago.

The guest of honor at the Founders Day observance was Mrs. Alonsita Walker, daughter of Mrs. Birney. Other members of the Birney family were also present.

Among the participants in the program were Mrs. Fred Knight, president of the Georgia Congress; Mrs. Charles D. Center, national chairman of Social Hygiene; Mrs. H. M. Kandel, Georgia chairman of Founders Day; Judge J. W. Hawkins, president of the Marietta Board of Education; and the Reverend John Tate, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Marietta.

WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS *Are Doing*

School Lands Saved for Children

CITIZENS in the state of Washington achieved a legislative victory on behalf of the schools in the November election. During a recent visit to the National Office, Mrs. Morris D. Kennedy, president of the Washington Congress, related in vivid manner the exciting story of a campaign to protect the school lands of the state.

During the early 1800's Washington, along with many other states, received certain land grants from the Federal government. In some states the lands were well managed but in others they were sold at unbelievably low prices or were passed into private hands through fraud, political favoritism, and personal selfishness.

In ensuing years the school lands in Washington were under varied types of control—some nonpartisan and others political and unchecked by any school representation. Nevertheless in 1945 the state still owned 2,200,000 acres of school land. In that year a bill was passed which once more changed the control of state timber sales to a new board of politically controlled officials. At this point the Washington Congress, feeling that the measure jeopardized public school interests, appealed to the state supreme court, and the way was cleared for a referendum vote on the bill. Accordingly petitions for a referendum were circulated and signed by 73,000 qualified voters. The forestry bill, now known as Referendum No. 27, was placed on the ballot in November.

Parent-teacher members all over the state worked diligently to defeat the measure, for had it passed, school lands would have been under the central control of the governor rather than an impartial land board. A special committee, set up under the chairmanship of Mrs. William S. Lindberg, treasurer of the Washington state branch, worked diligently in leading the campaign. Letters were written, leaflets and handbooks printed and distributed, meetings scheduled, and many personal calls made.

The final outcome of the election showed what parent-teacher efforts can accomplish, for Referendum No. 27 was defeated, and the school lands remain under nonpartisan control.

* * *

"And the Band Plays On..."

The members of the high school P.T.A. in New Iberia, Louisiana, now listen with justifiable pride to the music of the high school band, for the group was recently given some tangible assistance by the parent-teacher association. A November issue of the high school newspaper, forwarded by Mrs. Lloyd L. Benoit, local president, reveals how the high school P.T.A. gave impetus to the progress of the band. Organized this summer, the group of young musicians had only borrowed music. Then the high school parent-teacher unit came to the rescue during September and October, providing music funds that were matched by an equal amount from the high school fund.

After commending the local unit for its aid on this one project, the student editorial urged more and more parents and teachers to attend meetings of the high school association, which though only a little more than two years old, is obviously making its influence felt in the community.

Undaunted by Wind or Rain!

From Mrs. J. A. Barlow, a district director in the Indiana Congress, comes an account of a successful regional conference held recently in Evansville. Because Region 6 is a long narrow strip across the southern end of the state, it is usually difficult to schedule a conveniently located conference. Therefore two large buses were chartered to bring members and school administrators to the meeting at which the featured speakers were Mrs. John T. Brendel, regional vice-president in the Indiana state branch, and Mrs. Robert F. Shank, state president. This photograph, taken at 5:30 one rainy morning, attests to the enthusiasm and zeal of those who attended!

↓ **On the way to the Evansville conference.**

Four-Point Program of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers

1. School Education
2. Health
3. World Understanding
4. Parent and Family Life Education

INVITE parents in the community who are not yet members of the P.T.A. to join now and help put over this program. During the war men and women not in the armed services sought activities that would help their country achieve victory over our enemies. Enemies destructive to the well-being of our children are still at large in the world. Remind your friends and neighbors that they can still make a contribution to the welfare of their country by enlisting in the parent-teacher movement. By so doing they can aid in making America a better country—one worthy of the sacrifices that were made by our young men and women on the battlefields of the world.

DID you announce the Four-Point Program at the last meeting of your P.T.A.? If not, are you planning to bring it to the attention of your members at the next meeting? Reprints of the specific objectives published in the January 1947 issue of the *National Congress Bulletin* are available at cost, 50 cents for one hundred copies or $3.50 for a thousand.

Publicize this program in your local newspapers, on radio stations, in school papers, and in every other possible way.

Toledo Council Is on the Air

"In the past we have utilized very few of the radio facilities available in Toledo," writes Mrs. Frank Beeching, publicity director of the Toledo Council of Parent-Teacher Associations. "This year, however, we started with a 'bang.'"

Since September the council has presented a weekly series of programs on health education for adults. Broadcast each Monday at 1:45 E.S.T. over Station WSPD, these programs are presented by professional experts in the field being discussed. Among the speakers have been such officials as the president of the Toledo Dental Society, the director of the Toledo Speech Clinic, the head of the Toledo State Hospital, and the superintendents of several bureaus in the state health department. The series, presented free as a public service feature, is to be continued indefinitely.

Another weekly program is presented by the council over Station WTOD every Friday afternoon at 3:15 E.S.T. This is an informal fifteen-minute broadcast, consisting, for the most part, of local unit announcements, friendly bits of news about council projects, and items of general interest taken from the *National Congress Bulletin*, the *National Parent-Teacher*, and the *Ohio Parent-Teacher*. "We receive many interested comments on this program, and we believe it is a splendid way to make the community conscious of what we do and how we do it," states Mrs. Beeching. "We know of several instances of nonmembers attending local meetings after hearing a program announcement."

During Membership Week the third Toledo station, WTOL, carried a special program that included the Toledo Fathersingers and the Old Orchard P.T.A. male quartet. The council has also presented two interviews and one radio talk on WTOL. Early in 1947 the council plans to start a new series on the preschool age and parent education, which will also be handled by professional speakers. "We are most fortunate to have capable people to cooperate on these programs," concludes Mrs. Beeching.

RESERVATIONS FOR GOLDEN JUBILEE CONVENTION

June 2, 3, and 4, 1947

The Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, will be the official headquarters hotel for the 1947 convention. Those who plan to attend should be certain they have a place to stay before coming to Chicago for this annual meeting of the Congress.

All visitors and delegates, with the exception of the members of the National Board of Managers, should write directly to the Stevens Hotel for room reservations. Double rooms with twin beds, double rooms with double beds, and dormitory style rooms with four to six beds are available. Very few, if any, single rooms can be had.

The Stevens will not assume responsibility for selecting roommates for persons attending the convention. Therefore when you make a reservation it is *most important* that you give your own name and address and the names and addresses of the persons who will room with you. State definitely the day and hour you and your party will arrive as well as the day and hour you expect to leave.

Because of problems affecting all hotels in the Chicago area, room rates cannot be announced until April 1, 1947.

Highlights OF THE MONTH

In the February issue of
NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER: THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE

The Teacher Who Has Helped Me Most

by Paul Witty

• What are the qualities that mark the competent teacher? This is a question that educators have been attempting to answer for years, but recently our young people themselves were given a chance to express their views. If you are a teacher, Mr. Witty's analysis of these preferred traits will be a valuable gauge for self-evaluation. And if you are a parent, it will be a valuable comparison against which to measure your child's reaction to his classroom instructors.

Growing All the Way Up

by Katharine Whiteside Taylor

• Have parents and teachers really grown all the way up? Or have they often stopped short along the way? Mrs. Taylor, an expert in the field of family relations, explains in discerning manner why adults must themselves attain emotional maturity if they expect to guide wisely the children entrusted to their care.

Behind the Emotional Scene

by Irene M. Josselyn, M.D.

• Nowadays very few children are victims of malnutrition or undernourishment, according to Dr. Josselyn, a psychiatrist of note. Members of her profession do, however, see many patients suffering from *emotional malnutrition*, she contends. This article will aid many parents to understand what a desirable emotional environment includes and how to achieve an essential balance for the best interest of the entire family.

How Shall We Teach Them History?

by Vera Micheles Dean

• In a penetrating discussion of how we interpret history, Mrs. Dean, an authority on international affairs, pleads for a greater understanding of other nations' motives and actions. To this end she suggests five ways of improving history instruction so as to prevent American prejudice and misinterpretation. These methods, she believes, will give our young people the kind of perspective needed as a cornerstone for our foreign policy.

How To Think About Yourself *VI. You Are a Set of Values*

by Bonaro W. Overstreet

• In another of her interesting essays Mrs. Overstreet discusses the bewilderment that stems from a rapidly changing social scene. But amid the confusion of our chaotic age there is one well-known principle which is both stable and flexible, a measuring rod that applies to all varying situations. Those who seek "a sound combination of firmness and flexibility" will gain from this article a renewed faith in an age-old maxim, one which makes each daily problem a bit easier to solve.

Character for a New-Built World

by L. K. Bishop

• This timely article follows the theme of Brotherhood Week in urging intergroup teamwork as the only workable pattern for peace. Mr. Bishop, an outstanding lecturer on character education, points out the fallacy in many prevailing generalizations and offers suggestions for ridding ourselves of fear, suspicion, and hate. Admonishing us as to the consequences of failure, he asks that we train our youth for an amicable, cooperative society—our only safeguard in an atomic age.

Golden Jubilee Awards to P.T.A.'s

THE current campaign year for subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher* ends on March 31, 1947. As soon as the books are closed, Golden Jubilee certificates will be sent to all local associations that have earned them. Will your P.T.A. be entitled to one of these symbols of service to children during the Golden Jubilee year of the National Congress? Here are the requirements:

- **Each local association that obtains five subscriptions to National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine by March 31, 1947, will be awarded a Jubilee Certificate with one Jubilee Star.**
- **For each additional five subscriptions obtained by March 31, 1947, the association will receive an additional star.**

All subscriptions forwarded by the local unit from April 1, 1946, through March 31, 1947, may be counted. In applying for the certificate, use the official application blank, which was included in this year's Magazine Promotion Packet. If you haven't a copy of the blank, please request the National Office to send you one immediately. It is hoped that each of our 27,000 local associations will have a certificate to file with its treasured Golden Jubilee materials.

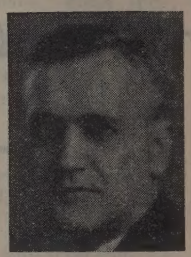
Association subscriptions as well as individual subscriptions may be counted, since the use of P.T.A. funds for this purpose is approved by the National Congress.

- **There is still plenty of time to secure five subscriptions. You have until March 31 to reach your goal!**

Mrs. J. J. Garland

Mrs. Morris D. Kennedy

Mrs. Charles A. Snyder



Mr. Knox Walker

National Vice-Presidents Nominated

The committee to nominate officers has presented the following nominees for election at the 1947 convention in June:

- **Vice-President, Region III. Knox Walker, Atlanta, Georgia**
- **Vice-President, Region V. Mrs. Charles A. Snyder, Omaha, Nebraska**
- **Vice-President, Region VII. Mrs. Morris D. Kennedy, Seattle, Washington**
- **Vice-President, Region VIII. Mrs. J. J. Garland, Menlo Park, California**

All the nominees are, of course, well qualified for office in the National Congress and have signified their willingness to serve if elected. The length of term is three years.

The members of the nominating committee are: Mrs. Newton P. Leonard of Providence, Rhode Island, chairman; Mrs. L. E. Burr of Las Vegas, Nevada; Mrs. Robert G. Doty of Cumberland, Maryland; Mrs. Jack M. Little of Dallas, Texas; and Charles W. Phillips of Greensboro, North Carolina.

If you need more membership cards, please write to the state congress office for them. Membership cards are not distributed to local associations from the National Office. Should you happen to run short of cards, collect the dues, give receipts for them, and give cards to the new members at the next meeting.

GOLDEN JUBILEE HONOR ROLL

NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER: THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE

THE Golden Jubilee Honor Roll grows by leaps and bounds! Twenty-two state congresses are now on it. The state branches listed below have already surpassed their NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER subscription records for last year. In other words, these states sent in more subscriptions during the past *nine months* than for the *entire* twelve months of the preceding year. The honor roll state branches and their gains in subscriptions are:

Alabama	738
Tennessee	490
Iowa	487
Mississippi	423
Louisiana	231
Arizona	182
Oregon	161
Florida	152
Missouri	100
Connecticut	83
Hawaii	70
Nevada	56
North Dakota	48
Massachusetts	42
Colorado	40
Rhode Island	39
South Dakota	30
Kentucky	28
New Hampshire	15
Indiana	12
Wyoming	4
Maryland	3

We have assurances from many of our other state congresses that they will be on the Honor Roll before the March issue of the *Bulletin* goes to press!

ATTENTION, LOCAL TREASURERS AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN!

- ***Send in immediately all membership dues collected to date.***
- ***Report by April 1, 1947, all dues collected between now and April first.***

THE membership figure of the National Congress will be totaled as of April 15, 1947. On that date we shall know whether or not we have reached our Golden Jubilee goal of 5,000,000 members. Recent reports from state chairmen of membership lead us to believe that we shall attain our membership aims, if *every single membership is reported.*

Under our system of all-inclusive dues, each P.T.A. member who pays dues in the local association thereby also pays dues in the state branch and National Congress. The state and national portion of the dues is entrusted to the local treasurer, who is expected to send it to the state treasurer. The state treasurer, in turn, sends the proper amount to the National Office. If each of our 27,000 P.T.A.'s failed to send in the state and national portion of *just one member's dues,* that would mean a loss of 27,000 memberships! Therefore, it is imperative that every membership be properly reported. The national membership record consists only of the figures that you, the local units, send it. Your dues should reach the state office by April 1 in order that the states may report to the National Office by April 15.

On January 15 the National Office released to the national chairman of Membership the first tabulation of the 1947 membership record. Of course the reports were quite incomplete, but eight states had already surpassed their 1946 records, and we are eagerly awaiting similar reports from other congresses. May we earnestly urge that membership records be checked now and as many dues as possible sent on to the state and national organizations. Those of us who are keenly interested in membership will then be encouraged by the progress made to date and in the weeks before the deadline as well.

YOU CAN MAKE OUR GOLDEN JUBILEE GOAL OF 5,000,000 MEMBERSHIPS A REALITY ON APRIL 15, 1947. We are relying on you, and we know our confidence in you will be well deserved.

Clara M. Beckham

National Chairman
Committee on Membership

MRS. ROOSEVELT APPEARS ON BAXTER PROGRAM

The Baxters recently had a most distinguished guest, when Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, United States delegate to the United Nations, appeared on the program of January 25.

Those who heard the Baxter program on that date were no doubt proud of young Bud, whose prize essay won for him a trip to Lake Success. There he saw the Security Council in action and learned much about the machinery of the United Nations. The climax of his visit was, of course, hearing Mrs. Roosevelt speak in her capacity as chairman of the Nuclear Commission on Human Rights.

Many approving comments are still coming in to indicate how pleased our radio listeners were to have Mrs. Roosevelt appear on the National Congress radio program.

The P.T.A. RADIO PROGRAM IS ON THE AIR EVERY SATURDAY

- ***Time—1:30 p. m., C.S.T.***
- ***Over NBC Stations***

DON'T FORGET TO LISTEN!

CONGRESS TO AID TEACHERS OVERSEAS

WHEREVER room can be found and children and teachers brought together, the peoples of many destitute countries are trying to start their schools again. They want their children to have an education because they know, as we do, that the only hope for peace lies in enlightenment.

But what a tremendous undertaking it is! Men and women who have volunteered to teach are overwhelmed by their tremendous task—the size of the classes, the years of educational neglect to be overcome, and the distressing lack of supplies. Books, pencils, paper, maps—ordinary items taken for granted here in America—simply are not to be had.

Try to imagine, if you can, how you could possibly teach a roomful of children to write without the aid of one pencil or piece of chalk! Think what it would mean to teach health habits and personal hygiene to children who have not seen a cake of soap, a toothbrush, a handkerchief, or a hairbrush in five years! Visualize the difficulty of keeping a class of cold, underclad youngsters occupied with lessons when your own body is cramped with dampness and misery!

HEEDING THE NEED

During the last two years the American Junior Red Cross has sent abroad for children gift boxes containing school items as well as personal requisites. However, no group has so far done anything to relieve the plight of teachers.

Accordingly, the National Congress decided to suggest that state boards, councils, local associations, and study groups volunteer to prepare 3,000 kits of educational and health supplies to be sent abroad as gifts to teachers in need.

PLANS AND PROCEDURES

Each kit is to be filled with supplies sufficient to meet the personal and schoolroom needs of one teacher for one year. The Red Cross will bear the cost of purchasing these fiber-board containers, of preparing them for export, of shipping and distributing them in war-devastated areas. Parent-teacher groups will be responsible only *for shipping charges to the port of exportation.*

In considering the project, the first step is to take stock of your budget. The cost for each kit has been estimated at about twenty-five dollars *provided every item is purchased by the group.* However, in the average P.T.A. there will be individuals who will want to purchase and contribute certain items, thus reducing the over-all cost to the association.

Next see if you can answer these questions affirmatively:

1. Do you agree to fill a kit *in its entirety* with *new* materials exactly conforming to the required list of items?
2. Will you abide by instructions, carefully carrying through your part of the agreement?

If you decide to assume these obligations, notify your state president who will, in turn, notify the National Congress. Then you will receive an empty kit and instructions on where to send it when it is filled.

CONTENTS FOR ONE KIT

Each kit must contain the following items with all standards accurately maintained:

2 blackboard erasers
1 box colored chalk
1 box white chalk
1 dozen pencils
1 box pen points
3 penholders
500 sheets paper
1 gallon powdered ink
12 rubber erasers
12 blotters
12 colored pencils
1 pr. knit socks (medium or large)
2 pr. knit gloves (medium or large)
1 knit coat sweater (medium or large)
1 hairbrush
1 comb
3 cakes toilet soap
1 cake laundry soap
1 pkg. assorted needles
1 can tooth powder
1 paper straight pins
1 toothbrush
5 dozen assorted buttons
1 paper safety pins
2 spools white cotton thread
2 spools black cotton thread
1 spool darning cotton
1 box face powder (large)
1 safety razor
1 pkg. razor blades
1 scarf
1 jar mentholatum (large)
1 jar cold cream
1 bath towel (large)
3 washcloths
1 blunt scissors or knife
1 card bobby pins
1 card hairpins
6 handkerchiefs
2 spools darning cotton (color of socks)
1 darning needle

FOUNDERS DAY FEATURES AN INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST

Our fiftieth anniversary Founders Day was fittingly observed on February 17 by an international broadcast over NBC stations in cooperation with the Canadian and British Broadcasting Corporations.

Originating in Chicago, the program opened with a brief dramatization of an early episode in P.T.A. history. Then Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president, brought greetings from Marietta, Georgia, where special ceremonies honoring Alice McLellan Birney were held. Next the program took its listeners to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, for a message from Dr. S. R. Laycock, president of the Canadian Federation of Home and School. Because it was impossible to pick up London at this time, a cabled message from George A. Lyward, chairman of the Home and School Council of Great Britain, was read in lieu of his remarks in person. The broadcast concluded with a short talk from Portland, Oregon, by Mrs. William Kletzer, past national president now serving as chairman of the Committee on Founders Day.

Parent-teacher members here in America, in Canada, and in Britain all feel an increasing interest in a reorganized International Federation of Home and School. When this hope becomes a reality, parents and teachers from many countries will do more than cooperate on an international broadcast. They will then join hands in one vast, united effort on behalf of children all over the world.

WHY WE SHOULD HELP

Local associations are urged to participate in this important project of the Congress. Remember that you are making a real contribution to educational rehabilitation. Moreover, you will be strengthening the bonds between parents, teachers, and children all over the world. We are counting on you to make this our Golden Jubilee project in the field of *world understanding*—a project that will help to establish that peace for which we unceasingly pray.